

## Geology

Colorado's Front Range is the eastern most expression of the Rocky Mountains and is one of the features that make Colorado unique. The Front Range is a complex arrangement of meta-sedimentary and meta-volcanic rocks that have inspired geologists since the Hayden surveys of 1873 and 1877. The Front Range is studied today to help scientists test and understand concepts related to the Laramide Orogeny, which is the period of mountain building that started in the Late Cretaceous, the duration and cause of which are still in dispute. The Front Range is an economically important source of metals including gold, silver, uranium, molybdenum, and tungsten and industrial minerals such as clay and feldspar.

## **Useful Links**

Colorado Springs Area

Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center - dinosaurs, pterosaurus, replies and fish from North America

<u>Garden of the Gods Visitor Center:</u> Tours and educational programs pertaining to the geology of the site

<u>Western Museum of Mining and Industry</u> - history and continuing contributions of mining specifically mining and metallurgy.

Cripple Creek Area—Colorado's largest gold discovery was in the Cripple Creek mining district in 1893.

Pikes Peak Heritage Center - information on mining and geology in the Cripple Creek Area.

Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine

Gilpin County Historical Society

<u>Gilpin History Museum</u> - Central City/Black Hawk Mining heritage

<u>Historic Idaho Springs</u> - Mining heritage in the Idaho Springs

Argo Gold Mine and Mill tour

**Edgar Mine** 

<u>Nederland Mining Museum</u> - the historical society maintains 2 museums historical records, mining equipment and memorabilia from the area

<u>Lafayette Miners Museum</u> - coal mining history in the Lafayette area.